

Appl. No. 10/789,000
Amdt. dated Aug. 5, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 22, 2005

REMARKS

The Examiner has held that Claims 1-9, drawn to a ceiling tile constitute an invention distinct and separate from Claims 10-14 drawn to a process for making a ceiling tile. Applicants believe that the process for making an abuse-resistant, cast ceiling tile employing aggregate particles to form the surface of the tile is so closely related to the abuse-resistant, cast ceiling tile of claims 1-9 that they constitute a single invention and are not separate and distinct inventions. Applicants are not aware of any other process for making the ceiling tile defined by claims 1-9.

However, in response to the requirement to restrict the prosecution to one of the inventions identified by the Examiner, applicants hereby elect Invention I, claims 1-9, for further prosecution. Applicants withdraw claims 10-14 from further prosecution and upon allowance of claims 1-9, applicants will cancel claims 10-14 and re-file these process claims in a continuation (divisional) application.

If the Examiner desires to contact applicants' attorney, Robert H. Robinson, by telephone, he can be reached during normal business hours at Area Code 847, Phone No. 945-4971.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert H. Robinson

Robert H. Robinson Esq.
Attorney for Applicant

August 5, 2005
USG Corporation
700 N. Highway 45
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 970-5132